

**AMENDMENT(S) TO THE ABSTRACT**

**Please replace the Abstract with the following amended Abstract:**

A hand-held portable container (1) for collecting and disposing of animal excreta comprising a shell (5,101) having an opening for receiving excreta, the shell (5,101) having an impaling instrument means including a plurality of tines (8) disposed within the shell (5,101) for impaling excreta. The tines (8) are provided by teeth (105) tapered so that the edges of the teeth (105) closest to the opening of the shell (5,101) are thin enough to allow at least partial penetration of excreta received into the opening. An aerosol cartridge (4,136) is mounted in a housing (3,131) of the container (1) and the cartridge includes a freezing component for freezing the excreta to the tines of the shell.